

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 48

2 **48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 John T. L. Grubescic

5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THAT THE LEGISLATIVE STRUCTURE AND PROCESS STUDY  
12 TASK FORCE STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING AN INDEPENDENT,  
13 BIPARTISAN CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION.

14  
15 WHEREAS, achieving proper political representation of New  
16 Mexico communities and minority groups fosters healthy  
17 competition in races for elective office; and

18 WHEREAS, competition in the political process helps  
19 guarantee that elected officials will represent the full  
20 diversity of New Mexico; and

21 WHEREAS, using a fair and open process to redraw New  
22 Mexico's political boundaries would reinvigorate the connection  
23 between elected officials and the residents of New Mexico; and

24 WHEREAS, broad citizen participation in the redistricting  
25 process will produce more accountability in government,

.165814.1

underscoring material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 strengthen public confidence in government and improve the  
2 quality of public policy;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
4 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative structure and process  
5 study task force be requested to study the feasibility of  
6 creating an independent, bipartisan citizens redistricting  
7 commission to compose district plans that are representative of  
8 New Mexico's population and that result in more competitive  
9 districts for public education commission, public regulation  
10 commission, legislative and congressional races; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include the  
12 following:

13 A. a review of independent, bipartisan citizens  
14 redistricting commissions created by other states;

15 B. methods for creating a balanced redistricting  
16 commission that is representative of the geographical, racial,  
17 ethnic, gender and age diversity of New Mexico; and

18 C. procedures for conducting the work of the  
19 redistricting commission that will ensure public participation  
20 and transparency of the redistricting process; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report the  
22 findings of its study, including recommendations for proposed  
23 legislation for the 2008 legislative session, to the next  
24 session of the legislature no later than December 1, 2007; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

.165814.1

underscored material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 transmitted to the co-chairs of the legislative structure and  
2 process study task force.

3 - 3 -  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25